

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 KHARTO 01405 291325Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 ARA-10 ACDA-12 IO-13 /104 W
-----021730 300130Z /73

R 291145Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6944
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

C O N F I D E N T I A L KHARTOUM 1405

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, ET, SU
SUBJ: ERITREAN SITUATION

1. IN A TALK I HAD WITH MINSTATE FOR FONAFFS FRANCIS DENG THIS MORNING, WE EXCHANGED VIEWS AND INFORMATION ABOUT ERITREAN SITUATION. DENG SAID SUDANESE STILL HAD HOPES OF SENDING MISSION HEADED BY VP ABUL GASIM TO ADDIS TO DISCUSS PROPOSAL FOR SETTLEMENT OF ERTIREAN PROBLEM BASED ON ERITREAN REGIONAL AUTONOMY UNDER ETHIOPIAN SOVEREIGNTY. ETHIOPIANS WERE CONTINUING TO TEMPORIZE, HOWEVER.
 2. DENG FELT THAT CHANCES WERE NOW BETTER THAN EVEN THAT SOVIETS AND CUBANS WOULD GIVE MENGISTU FULL SUPPORT IN AN EFFORT TO RETAKE THE WHOLE OF ERITREA MILITARILY. HE WONDERED WHAT WORLD REACTION WOULD BE. HE ASKED SPECIFICALLY ABOUT U.S. REACTION.
 3. I SAID HISTORICAL AND LEGAL SITUATION RE ERITREA WAS RATHER COMPLICATED. WHILE MEMBERS OF U.S. FOREIGN POLICY ESTABLISHMENT WERE FAMILIAR WITH BACKGROUND, AMERICAN PUBLIC OPINION WOULD NEED SOME ENLIGHTENMENT. AT SAME TIME, HOWEVER, I HAD BEEN IMPRESSED BY NUMBER OF LETTERS
- CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 KHARTO 01405 291325Z

WE WERE RECEIVING FROM PEOPLE THROUGHOUT THE U.S., PARTICULARLY CHURCH GROUPS, SEEKING TO ASSIST INDIVIDUAL ERITREAN REFUGEES. I ASKED DENG IF OAU STATES WOULD BE INCLINED TO SUPPORT ETHIOPIA IN ERITREA AS THEY HAD IN OGADEN. DENG BELIEVED THAT AFRICAN LEADERS WERE FULLY AWARE OF ETHIOPIA'S UNILATERALLY TERMINATING FEDERATION AGAINST THE WISHES OF THE U.N. HE ACKNOWLEDGED,

HOWEVER, THAT SOME AFRICAN STATES WOULD NEVERTHELESS
VIEW ERITREAN INSURGENCY AS IMPLY ANOTHER THREAT TO
AFRICAN FRONTIERS AND WOULD SUPPORT ETHIOPIA ACCORDINGLY.

4. DENG FELT THAT IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT THE WEST
OPPOSE SOVIET AND CUBAN ACTIVITY IN ERITREA ON THE GROUNDS
THAT THIS WAS FOREIGN INTERVENTION IN SUPPORT OF
ETHIOPIA'S FLOUTING THE WILL OF THE U.N. HE FELT THAT THE
LEAST THE WEST SHOULD DEMAND WAS THAT ERITREA'S FEDERAL
STATUS SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THEM.
BERGUS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, POLITICAL SITUATION, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978KHARTO01405
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780137-0312
Format: TEL
From: KHARTOUM
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780314/aaaaaltc.tel
Line Count: 72
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 071bfebb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3172642
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ERITREAN SITUATION
TAGS: PINT, ET, SU
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/071bfebb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014